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From: Robert B. Brownell
To: Mike Powell
Date: Thu. Feb 6, 2003 1:22 PM
Subject: Keep UNE-P

February 6, 2003

Dear Commissioner:

I ask your support for the continued availability of the "UNE-Platform."

I am an agent for New Rochelle Telephone, which offers local telephone service in New York. The company has achieved increasing success largely because it utilizes the combination of "unbundled network elements" - the UNE-Platform - to serve customers. It is absolutely critical that competitive local carriers have continued access to the UNE-Platform to remain competitive, and benefit consumers.

Unfortunately, the Regional Bell Operating Companies have launched a full-scale attack on the UNE-Platform, realizing it is a major threat to their continued market dominance. Their strategy is to impose certain restrictions on individual network elements that would destroy the competitive value of the UNE-Platform. If the RBOCs succeed, it will all but end any chance for consumers to enjoy the benefits of meaningful competition in local phone service. In my opinion, the RBOCs achieved monopoly position as a result of many years of governmental promotion and protection and not through their own efforts. They should not be allowed to continue as monopolists, and destroy the small competitor, when the full benefits of competition are now beginning to flow to consumers and small businesses.

Please oppose any effort that will limit the availability of the UNE-Platform. The UNE-Platform should be firmly and permanently established as a viable service option for competitive telecom carriers.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

CC: Commissioner Adelstein, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Kathleen Abernathy